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Letter dated 12 November 2001 from the Permanent Representative of Kuwait to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to alert you and the members of the Council to the fact that last Sunday, 11 November 2001, Kuwaiti security personnel observed some Iraqi violations of Kuwait's boundaries that represent an escalation and provide an indication of a wish on Iraq's part to undermine stability along the borders. When Iraqi border forces fired a number of projectiles in the direction of Kuwaiti territory, the relevant Kuwaiti authorities immediately notified the commander of the United Nations Iraq-Kuwait Observation Mission (UNIKOM) and he lodged a protest with the Iraqi authorities against this latest escalation. We present hereunder an account of this Iraqi violation and of the subsequent developments.

1. At 0930 hours Kalashnikov assault-rifle fire was heard and seen being directed from the Iraqi side at Kuwaiti territory near boundary pillar 94/Safwan.

2. The Kuwaiti liaison officer immediately notified the UNIKOM chief of operations of the incident.

3. At 0945 hours explosions were seen and heard near boundary pillar 92, on the Kuwaiti side.

4. The UNIKOM investigation team led by Lieutenant Colonel Dennis Sandal proceeded to the site of the explosion, where it saw a crater some 80 centimetres in diameter and 30 to 40 centimetres deep containing remnants of a projectile in the form of scattered fragments. The relevant Kuwaiti team thereupon met with the members of the UNIKOM team led by the UNIKOM chief of operations and it was determined that a Russian-made 82-millimetre mortar round had been fired from the Iraqi side at Kuwaiti territory some 3 to 4 kilometres from Safwan.

5. The UNIKOM commander informed us that he would notify the Department of Peacekeeping Operations at the United Nations of the occurrence and that an official complaint would be lodged with the competent authority in Iraq concerning the day's incidents.

This incident, which follows on the heels of repeated violations and infractions by the Iraqi Government, once again illustrates the intentions of the Iraqi Government with regard to the people and Government of Kuwait and the fact that these intentions are other than peaceful. It clearly shows that the Iraqi authorities still bear malice and that they are still doing everything in their power to undermine

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Kuwait's security and stability. We condemn these hostile practices and policies, which are incompatible with the Charter of the United Nations and the relevant Security Council resolutions, and we call upon the Security Council to intervene with the Iraqi Government in order to induce it to halt its violations and to respect the sovereignty and security of the State of Kuwait.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Mohammad A. **Abulhasan**
Permanent Representative